1953 as the Government had to provide for the absorption of a large number of revenue subordinates who had to revert to lower categories on account of the introduction of the scheme of separation of the Judiciary from the Executive.''

Sri M. NARAYANA KURUP :—'' May I know before the introduction of the scheme how many were promoted to posts in the Commercial Taxes department from this department? ''

The Hon. Sri B. PARAMESWARAN :—'' I want notice.''

Sri M. KALYANASUNDARAM :—'' ஸப்-ரிஜிஸ்திரார் பதவிக்கு தேர்ந்தெடுக்கும்போது நேரடியாக எத்தனை சத விகிதத்தினர் தேர்ந்தெடுக்கப்படுகிறார்கள் ? குமஸ்தாக்களிலிருந்து எத்தனை சத விகிதத்தினர் பதவி உயர்வு மூலம் ஸப்-ரிஜிஸ்திரார்களாக தேர்ந்தெடுக்கப்படுகிறார்கள் ? ''

The Hon. Sri B. PARAMESWARAN :—'' You mean District Registrars? ''

Sri M. KALYANASUNDARAM :—'' Sub-Registrars.''

The Hon. Sri B. PARAMESWARAN :—'' I have no information.''

Sri V. BALAKRISHNAN :—'' How many cases are there of officers who joyfully entered service as Sub-Registrars in their early twenties and who retired sorrowfully as Sub-Registrars in their late fifties? '' (Laughter.)

The Hon. Sri B. PARAMESWARAN :—'' I want notice. But I may tell the hon. Member that there are only 31 District Registrars and the promotion of Sub-Registrars cannot be quickened as there are a large number of them.''

Sri K. R. VISWANATHAN—'' The benefit of Sub-Registrars becoming officers in the Commercial Taxes department was withdrawn in 1953 to enable revenue officials to get their proper promotions. Now two years have elapsed since then. Will the Government, therefore, reconsider the question and allow Sub-Registrars to become officers in the Commercial Taxes department? ''

The Hon. Sri B. PARAMESWARAN :—'' I cannot say whether it will be possible for the Government to allow them to get into the Commercial Taxes department. However, the Government will review the position.''

Rice Mills.

* 1463 *Q.*—

Mr. SPEAKER :—'' The hon. Member is not here. Question and answer will be printed in the proceedings.''

Dr. T. S. SOUNDARAM RAMACHANDRAN : Will the Hon. the Minister for Agriculture be pleased to state—

(*a*) how many rice mills are working in the Madras State; and

(*b*) the income derived from these mills by the Government?

The Hon. Sri M. BHAKTAVATSALAM :—'' (*a*) There are 6,083 rice mills working in the Madras State.

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" (b) Under the Madras Rice Mills Licensing Order, a licence fee of Rs. 24 per annum, is being levied for the issue of a licence to each rice mill and for its annual renewal. The Government are getting an income of about Rs. 1·4 lakhs per annum (roundly)."

Change of the period and season of north-east monsoon.

* 1341 Q.—SRI K. ARANGANATHAN : Will the Hon. the Minister for Revenue be pleased to state whether the Government have received any report from the Geological department about the change of the period and season of north-east monsoon? "

THE HON. SRI M. A. MANICKAVELU :—" A report entitled 'North-East Monsoon Rainfall of Tamil Nad—A study of 82 years data' was received from the Meteorological Centre, Madras, in 1952. The report states that there is no indication of a gradual change (secular change) in the season's rainfall."

SRI K. ARANGANATHAN :—" The north-east monsoon gives heavy rain only in the months of June and July and not in November and December as usual. The ryots are not able to know this change in time and are not able to get suitable strains for cultivation purposes. May I know what action the Government propose to take in this connexion, if they are aware of this change? "

THE HON. SRI M. A. MANICKAVELU :—" The Government cannot change the course of the monsoon. For the hon. Member's information I may say that the north-east monsoon generally commences about the 10th of October and continues till the 25th of December, a period of 75 days. There are about 25 to 30 rainy days during that period in the coastal districts and 15 to 20 days in the interior districts. This phenomenon—I mean the drought—was felt this decade and it is not unusual. In the years 1870, 1875 and 1876 also, there was this. But there is no periodicity about it. It is just a freak of nature."

SRI K. UPPI :—" May I know whether this Government are responsible for the change in monsoon? " (Laughter.)

SRI V. BALAKRISHNAN :—" Has the change in weather affected the political equilibrium of the Ministers also? "

THE HON. SRI M. A. MANICKAVELU :—" It might have in Pudukkottai but not in our State." (Laughter.)

SRI S. DAIVASIGAMONEY :—" We wish to know whether there is any indication from the report that the usual monsoon is liable for variation in future years also? " 8-50 a.m.

THE HON. SRI M. A. MANICKAVELU :—" It is not likely from what the report says."

SRI K. VINAYAKAM :—" Apart from joking, this is a serious question. We do not expect the Government to change the course of monsoon. The object of the question is this. The north-east monsoon used to occur during special periods in the past. In the